



Website: WoodyInvasives.mt.gov
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PURPOSE:

A collaboration of conservation minded partners seeking to increase awareness of the harmful impacts of woody invasive species to Montanans' way of life and to promote evidence-based management of saltcedar, Russian olive, and common buckthorn.

MISSION:

Our mission is to help Montana meet the objectives laid out in the Woody Invasive Species Statewide Management Plan by providing oversight and coordination of control efforts, help fund initiatives such as mapping, monitoring, and outreach and education, and to continue providing a forum for managers and landowners to learn from one another and discuss innovative and technically sound management efforts.

BACKGROUND:

Earlier efforts have attempted to address invasive woody invasive species. In 2023 the Woody Invasives Working Group (WIWG) was established, representing county, state, and federal agencies; municipalities; industries; NGOs; applicators; landowners; producers; and researchers.

Montana Noxious Weed Trust Fund grant was secured by the Custer County Conservation District and the Yellowstone River Conservation Districts Council. The Working Group of approximately 200 stakeholders began meeting to address gaps and needs, identify and learn best management practices, develop education and outreach materials, and compose the Woody Invasive Species Statewide Management Plan.

Additionally, a Woody Invasives Impact Study, funded by the Montana Invasive Species Council, outlines the cost of management and economic impacts (both realized and expected) for Montana. These technical reports along with education and outreach materials have been broadly distributed to resource managers, landowners and producers.

The Missouri River Conservation Districts Council continues to lead the core partners in activities across the state, contributing significant time, effort, and funds to protect riparian corridors and sustain Montana's diverse agricultural and recreational landscapes.

CORE COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

- Big Horn Conservation District
- Central and Eastern Montana Invasive Species Team
- Invasive Species Action Network
- Missouri River Conservation Districts Council
- Montana Department of Agriculture
- Montana Invasive Species Council
- Montana Watershed Coordination Council
- Yellowstone River Conservation Districts Council